

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 2, 4-12 and 16-17 remain in this application. Claims 1, 12 and 17 have been amended. Claims 13 and 18-20 have been cancelled. No new claims have been added.

Formally Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes that the indicated allowability of claims 12 and 17 has been withdrawn in view of newly discovered references to U.S. 2003/0095307 (Moon et al.) in view of U.S. 6,867,897 (Patel et al.) and in view of U.S. 6,200,882 (Drake et al.).

Claim Objections

Claim 1 has been amended to account for a spelling error. Claim 18 has been cancelled rendering the spelling objection moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes that claims 10, 11 and 16 are allowed. Additionally, Applicant notes that the Examiner has indicated that claims 1, 2 and 4-9 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objection noted above. Further, Applicant notes that the Examiner indicated that claims 13 and 20 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claim 12 and claim 17 to incorporate elements found in claim 13 and claims 18-20, respectively. Applicant submits that these claims as amended are allowable.

Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of records, Applicant believes that claims 1, 2, 4-12 and 16-17 of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant a one (1) month extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

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Please direct any questions or comments to Thomas R. Beall at 607-974-3921

Respectfully submitted,



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